

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

MODIFICATION OF MAIL CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE
REGARDING CERTAIN ANCILLARY SERVICES

Docket No. MC2013-28

**NOTICE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
OF MINOR CLASSIFICATION CHANGES
RELATED TO CERTAIN ANCILLARY SERVICES**
(January 8, 2013)

Pursuant to 39 C.F.R. §§ 3020.90 and 3020.91, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) hereby gives notice of minor changes in the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS). The proposed changes have been approved by the Governors and modify the descriptions of certain Ancillary Services. These changes do not affect any prices and simply update the MCS language to match the levels of service that customers currently receive.

For Ancillary Services, two primary changes are being made. First, the new classification language changes the name of “Delivery Confirmation” service to “USPS Tracking” service. In conjunction with this name change, the Postal Service has also updated the service’s description to reflect improved tracking and electronic notification capabilities (which go beyond confirmation of delivery), make grammatical corrections, and include additional language that more accurately describes the service that customers currently receive as part of Delivery Confirmation.¹

¹ Though the attached MCS language appears to make significant changes to the description of USPS Tracking service, much of the original “Delivery Confirmation” language remains. Except

Second, the new classification language makes minor changes to the descriptions of several other Ancillary Services.² Like the description improvements for USPS Tracking service, these description changes include grammatical corrections, additional language that more accurately describes the services that customers currently receive, and improvements to the Postal Service's tracking and electronic notification capabilities. These changes also update the names of certain products (i.e. Parcel Post) that have changed since each description was last updated.

The proposed changes to the MCS are attached to this pleading as Attachment A. The Postal Service believes that these changes are consistent with 39 U.S.C. § 3642 and will improve customers' understanding of each service. The Postal Service requests that the Commission approve the attached changes by January 27, 2013, so that they will take effect in conjunction with the price changes approved in Docket No. R2013-1.

for the updated description of "end-to-end tracking updates," the additional language simply improves the description of the service to reflect the offerings that customers currently receive as part of Delivery Confirmation service.

² In particular, these changes update the descriptions of Certified Mail, Certificate of Mailing, Collect on Delivery, Insurance, Merchandise Return Service, Registered Mail, Return Receipt, Return Receipt for Merchandise, Restricted Delivery, Signature Confirmation, and Special Handling.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT A

MAIL CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

(Additions are underlined and deletions are marked with strike-through. Some unchanged language is included, but only to show the location of the changes.)

PART A

MARKET DOMINANT PRODUCTS

1001 MARKET DOMINANT PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS

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1500 Special Services

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1505 Ancillary Services

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1505.5 Certified Mail

1505.5.1 Description

- a. Certified Mail service provides ~~mailers a mailer of First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, or Priority Mail (except Critical Mail) pieces~~ with a mailing receipt and, ~~upon request,~~ electronic confirmation verification of the date, location, and time of an article was the delivered or that a delivery attempt was made attempted delivery of the item. If the initial attempt to deliver the item mail is not successful, a notice of attempted delivery is also provided to the addressee. ~~, and the date and time of the attempted delivery is made available to the mailer.~~
- b. Certified Mail service may only be purchased at the time of mailing and is available for use with First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, or Priority Mail (except Critical Mail).
- b. ~~Delivery status may be obtained: over the Internet, by telephone, or by bulk electronic file transfer for mailers who provide an electronic manifest. The Postal Service maintains a record of delivery (which includes the recipient's signature) for a specified period of time.~~
- c. To obtain a mailing receipt a mailer must mail the item article at a Post Office, branch, or station, or business mail entry unit, or give the item article to a rural carrier, in order to obtain a mailing receipt.
- d. If the item is successfully delivered, the Postal Service maintains a record of delivery (including the recipient's signature) for a period of time specified in the Domestic Mail Manual. If the item is returned to the sender, the Postal Service does not retain the sender's return signature as part of the record of delivery.
- e. Electronic confirmation notices may be obtained over the internet, by telephone, via mobile smartphone application, or by electronic file transfer for mailers who provide an electronic manifest.

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1505.6 Certificate of Mailing

1505.6.1 Description

- a. Certificate of Mailing service ~~provides~~ ~~furnishes~~ evidence that mail has been presented to the Postal Service for mailing.
- b. Certificate of Mailing service may only be purchased at the time of mailing and is available for use with First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service ~~commercial base parcels~~, Priority Mail (except Critical Mail), Package Services, Standard Mail (except Customized MarketMail), Standard Post, Parcel Return Services, and Parcel Select.
- c. Certificate of Mailing service does not include the retention of a record of mailing by the Postal Service or provide evidence of delivery.
- d. A mailer may, upon request, and after paying the appropriate fee, obtain an additional ~~duplicate~~ Certificate of Mailing according to the ~~on~~ terms specified in the Domestic Mail Manual.

1505.6.2 Prices

Individual Piece Prices

	(\$)
Original Certificate of Mailing, individual article	1.15
Three or more pieces individually listed in a firm mailing book or an approved customer provided manifest (per piece)	0.44
Each additional copy of original Certificate of Mailing or original mailing receipt for Registered Mail, Insurance insured , Certified Mail, and COD mail pieces (each copy)	1.15

Bulk Prices

	(\$)
Up to 1,000 identical-weight pieces (one certificate for total number)	6.70
Each additional 1,000 identical-weight pieces or fraction thereof	0.80
<u>Each additional</u> Duplicate <u>copy of original Certificate of Mailing</u>	1.15

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1505.7 Collect on Delivery

1505.7.1 Description

- a. Collect on Delivery (COD) service allows a mailer to send mail an item ~~article~~ for which he/she has not received full or partial payment (of \$1,000.00 or less) ~~has not yet been received~~, and have that payment, the cost of postage and fees, and anticipated or past due charges, collected by the Postal Service from the addressee when the item ~~article~~ is delivered.
- b. COD service is only available at the time of mailing and may be purchased by taking the item to a Post Office, branch station, or business mail entry unit.
- b.c. COD service is available for use with Express Mail, First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, Priority Mail, Package Services, and Parcel Select (excluding Parcel Select Lightweight), and Standard Post pieces.
- e.d. COD service includes: 1) a mailing receipt; 2) the ability to obtain additional copies of the mailing receipt; and 3) insurance against loss, damage, or missing contents, as well as failure to receive the instrument issued to the mailer after payment of COD charges. The Postal Service's liability for failure to receive the instrument is limited to loss in transit.
- d.e. If ~~a~~ delivery is ~~not~~ attempted, but ~~or is not~~ unsuccessful, a notice will be provided to the addressee. The mailer may receive a notice of nondelivery if the item piece mailed is properly endorsed ~~appropriately~~ and the appropriate fee is paid.
- e.f. ~~A mailer of COD~~ mailer agrees ~~mail guarantees~~ to pay any return postage unless otherwise specified on the item.
- f.g. The mailer may designate a new addressee or alter the COD charges by submitting the appropriate form and by paying the appropriate fee.
- g.h. A claim for complete loss may only be filed by the mailer ~~only~~. A claim for damage or for partial loss may be filed by either the mailer or the addressee.
- h.i. COD service is not available for: collection agency purposes; return of merchandise, unless the new addressee has consented in advance to such return; parcels containing motion pictures ~~moving picture films~~ mailed by exhibitors to motion picture ~~moving picture~~ manufacturers, distributors, or exchanges; goods that have not been ordered by the addressee; or for ~~and the~~ sending of only bills or statements of indebtedness only. However, when a legitimate COD shipment consists of merchandise or bill of lading, the balance due on a past or

anticipated transaction may be included in the charges for ~~on a COD item article~~, (provided that the addressee has consented in advance to such action).

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1505.8 USPS Tracking~~Delivery Confirmation~~

1505.8.1 Description

- ~~a. Delivery Confirmation service provides, upon request, electronic confirmation to the mailer of delivery or attempted delivery.~~
- ~~b. Delivery Confirmation service is available with First-Class Mail parcels, Priority Mail pieces, Standard Mail Parcels, Package Services parcels, and Parcel Select parcels.~~
- ~~c. Delivery Confirmation service may be requested only at time of mailing.~~
- a. USPS Tracking service provides customers with end-to-end tracking updates, including confirmation of delivery, as the item travels to its destination. Tracking updates include the location, date, and time of delivery or attempted delivery; the item's arrival and departure from certain postal facilities; and if the item is forwarded or returned to the sender.
- b. USPS Tracking service is only available at the time of mailing and may be purchased for use with First-Class Mail parcels, Standard Mail parcels, and Package Services. USPS Tracking service is automatically included with the purchase of items sent via Priority Mail, Parcel Select, Standard Post, and First-Class Package Service.
- c. Tracking updates may be obtained over the Internet, by telephone, via mobile smartphone application, or by electronic file transfer for mailers who provide an electronic manifest. USPS Tracking service does not include the collection of any recipient signatures.
- d. USPS Tracking service may only be obtained by: 1) applying a unique tracking barcode prior to mailing; 2) taking the item to a Post Office, branch, station, self-service kiosk, or business mail entry unit; or 3) giving the piece to a rural carrier.

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1505.9 Insurance

1505.9.1 Description

- a. Insurance is available as either General Insurance with a Bulk Insurance option or Express Mail Insurance.
- b. For items ~~mail~~ insured for \$200.00 or less, the USPS maintains delivery information (not including a signature) for a specified period of time. For items ~~mail~~ insured for more than \$200.00, the USPS maintains a delivery record (which includes the recipient's signature) for a specified period of time. If the item is returned to the sender, the Postal Service does not retain the sender's return signature as part of the delivery record.
- c. ~~A notice of attempted delivery is left at the delivery address if the first attempt at delivery is unsuccessful. If the initial attempt to deliver the item is not successful, a notice of attempted delivery is provided to the addressee.~~
- d. Undeliverable-as-addressed insured mail will be returned to the sender as specified by the mailer ~~sender~~ or as specified in the Domestic Mail Manual.
- e. Indemnity will not be paid by the Postal Service for loss, damage, or missing contents for nonmailable matter; due to improper packaging; due to seizure by any agency of government; due to war, insurrection or civil disturbances; or as specified in the Domestic Mail Manual.
- f. For negotiable items, currency, or bullion, the maximum liability is \$15.00.

General Insurance

- a. General Insurance provides the mailer with indemnity for items mailed using Package Services, Parcel Select, Standard Mail parcels, or Standard Post, or items included in pieces sent via First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, or Priority Mail, if the contents would be eligible to be mailed via using Standard Mail service or Package Services. ~~mail if included in a First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, or Priority Mail piece.~~
- b. General Insurance provides the mailer with a receipt for each item mailed and indemnity for up to the actual value of the article at the time of mailing. For General Insurance, ~~other than (excluding the Bulk Insurance option), a claim for complete loss may only be filed by the mailer only, and a claim for damage or for partial loss may be filed by either the mailer or addressee.~~ A claim for complete loss may only be filed by the mailer.

- c. General Insurance is not available for matter offered for sale and addressed to a prospective purchaser who has not ordered or authorized its sending.

Bulk Insurance Option

- a. General Insurance includes a Bulk Insurance option that is available for Standard Mail parcels and Parcel Select pieces entered as specified in the Domestic Mail Manual.
- b. Bulk Insurance provides indemnity for the lesser of (1) the actual value of the article at the time of mailing, or (2) the wholesale cost of the contents to the sender. For Bulk Insurance, all claims must be filed by the mailer.

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1505.10 Merchandise Return Service

1505.10.1 Description

- a. Merchandise Return Service enables a permit holder to authorize a mailer to send parcels with the postage and fees paid by the permit holder.
- b. Merchandise Return Service is available for use with parcels sent by First-Class Mail ~~parcels service~~, First-Class Package Service, Priority Mail ~~service~~ (except Critical Mail service), Standard Post, and Package Services.
- c. The permit holder must pay an account maintenance fee for each advance deposit account.

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1505.12 Registered Mail

1505.12.1 Description

- a. Registered Mail service provides added protection to First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, and Priority Mail (except Critical Mail) pieces, and provides indemnity in case of loss, damage, or missing contents. The amount of indemnity depends upon the actual value of the article at the time of mailing, up to a maximum of \$25,000.00. Articles with a declared value of more than \$25,000.00 can be registered, but compensation for loss, damage, or missing contents is limited to \$25,000.00.

- b. Registered Mail service also provides the mailer with a mailing receipt and, ~~upon request,~~ electronic confirmation verification that of the location, date, and time of the when an article was delivered or that attempted a delivery of the item was made. If the initial attempt to deliver the mail is not successful, a A notice of attempted delivery is also provided to the addressee left at the delivery address if the initial delivery attempt is unsuccessful. A notice of nondelivery is provided when a Registered Mail piece is undeliverable-as-addressed and cannot be forwarded. ~~Delivery status may be obtained over the Internet, by telephone, or by bulk electronic file transfer for mailers who provide an electronic manifest. The Postal Service maintains a record of delivery (which includes the recipient's signature) for a specified period of time.~~
- c. If the item is successfully delivered, the Postal Service maintains a record of delivery (including the recipient's signature) for a period of time specified in the Domestic Mail Manual. If the item is undeliverable-as-addressed or returned to the sender, the Postal Service does not retain the sender's return signature as part of the record of delivery.
- d. Electronic confirmation notices may be obtained over the internet, by telephone, via mobile smartphone application, or by electronic file transfer for mailers who provide an electronic manifest.
- e. ~~c.~~ Registered Mail pieces are forwarded and returned without additional registry charge.
- f. ~~d.~~ Restrictions on the availability of Registered Mail service may apply, and specific mail preparation requirements (specified in the Domestic Mail Manual) must be met.
- g. ~~e.~~ Indemnity claims for Registered Mail service must be filed within a specified period of time from the date the article was mailed. A claim concerning complete loss of registered articles may be filed by the mailer only. A claim concerning damage to or partial loss of registered articles may be filed by either the mailer or addressee.
- h. Registered Mail service is only available at the time of mailing and may only be purchased by presenting the item at a Post Office, branch, station, or business mail entry unit.

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1505.13 Return Receipt

1505.13.1 Description

- a. Return Receipt service provides a mailer with evidence that an item has been received at the delivery address, including an original or electronic copy of the recipient's signature.
- b. Return Receipt service is available with:
 - Express Mail;
 - First-Class Mail (when purchased at the time of mailing with Certified Mail, COD, Insured mail for more than \$200.00, or Registered Mail);
 - First-Class Package Service (when purchased at the time of mailing with Certified Mail, COD, Insured mail for more than \$200.00, or Registered Mail);
 - Priority Mail (except Critical Mail) when purchased at the time of mailing with Adult Signature (PS Form 3811 only), Certified Mail, COD, Insured mail for more than \$200.00, or Registered Mail;
 - Standard Mail and Parcel Select Lightweight (when purchased at the time of mailing with bulk insurance for more than \$200.00 and prepared as parcels);
 - Standard Post (When Purchased at the time of mailing with COD or Insured mail for more than \$200.00);
 - Package Services (when purchased at the time of mailing with COD or Insured mail for more than \$200.00); and
 - Parcel Select, except Parcel Select Lightweight (when purchased at the time of mailing with COD or Insured mail for more than \$200.00).
- c. Mailers requesting Return Receipt service at the time of mailing will be provided with an original or electronic copy of the signature of the recipient, the date delivered, and the address of delivery ~~on the item,~~ (if different from the address on the item for original receipts).
- d. Mailers requesting Return Receipt service after mailing will be provided with evidence of delivery from the delivery records, including a copy of the recipient's signature, the date of delivery, and the name of the person who signed for the article.

- e. If the mailer does not receive a return receipt within a specified period of time after ~~from~~ the date of mailing, the mailer may request evidence of delivery from the delivery record, at no additional fee.

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1505.14 Return Receipt for Merchandise

1505.14.1 Description

- a. Return Receipt for Merchandise service provides a mailer with a mailing receipt and a return receipt providing evidence that the mail has been received at the delivery address, including the recipient's signature.
- b. Return Receipt for Merchandise service is only available at the time of mailing and may be purchased for use ~~is available~~ with Priority Mail service (except Critical Mail service), Standard Mail parcels, Standard Post, Package Services, and Parcel Select ~~service~~.
- ~~c. Return Receipt for Merchandise service must be requested at the time of mailing.~~
- ~~c. d.~~ Return Receipt for Merchandise service also supplies the mailer with the delivery address if it is different from the address used by the sender.
- ~~d. e.~~ If the mailer does not receive a return receipt within a specified period of time from the date of mailing, the mailer may request evidence of delivery from the delivery record, at no additional charge.
- f. If the initial attempt to deliver the item is not successful, a notice of attempted delivery is provided to the addressee.

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1505.15 Restricted Delivery

1505.15.1 Description

- a. Restricted Delivery service permits a mailer to direct delivery only to the addressee or addressee's authorized agent. The addressee must be an individual (~~or a~~ a natural person) specified by name.
- b. Restricted Delivery service is available with:
 - First-Class Mail (when purchased at the time of mailing with Certified Mail, COD, Insured mail for more than \$200.00, or Registered Mail);

- First-Class Package Service (when purchased at the time of mailing with Certified Mail, COD, Insured mail for more than \$200.00, or Registered Mail);
 - Priority Mail (except Critical Mail) (when purchased at the time of mailing with Certified Mail, COD, Insured mail for more than \$200.00, or Registered Mail);
 - Standard Mail and Parcel Select Lightweight (when purchased at the time of mailing with bulk insurance for more than \$200.00 and prepared as parcels);
 - Standard Post (when purchased at the time of mailing with COD or Insured mail for more than \$200.00);
 - Package Services (when purchased at the time of mailing with COD or Insured mail for more than \$200.00); and
 - Parcel Select, except Parcel Select Lightweight (when purchased at the time of mailing with COD or Insured mail for more than \$200.00).
- c. Restricted Delivery is available for purchase to the mailer at the time of mailing or after mailing.

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1505.17 Signature Confirmation

1505.17.1 Description

- a. ~~Signature Confirmation service provides mailers with of First-Class Mail parcels, First-Class Package Service parcels, Package Services parcels, Parcel Select parcels (except Parcel Select Lightweight), and Priority Mail pieces with~~ a record of delivery, the recipient's signature, and end-to-end tracking updates as the item travels to its destination. Tracking updates include the location, date, and time of: delivery or attempted delivery; the item's arrival and departure from certain postal facilities; and if the item is forwarded or returned to the sender.
- b. Tracking updates may be obtained over the Internet, by telephone, via mobile smartphone application, or by electronic file transfer for mailers who provide an electronic manifest.
- c. Signature Confirmation service is only available at the time of mailing and may be purchased for use with First-Class Mail parcels, First-Class Package Service, Package Services, Standard Post, Parcel Select (except Parcel Select Lightweight), and Priority Mail pieces.

- d. Signature Confirmation service may only be obtained: 1) online; 2) by taking the item to a Post Office, branch, station, self-service kiosk, or business mail entry unit; or 3) by giving the item to a rural carrier.
- e. ~~b.~~ If the item is successfully delivered, a delivery record (including the signature of the recipient) is maintained by the Postal Service for a specified period of time. If the item is returned to the sender, the Postal Service does not retain the sender's return signature as part of the delivery record. An electronic copy of the delivery record, and a copy, including a copy of the signature of the recipient if delivery was successful, is available upon request.
- ~~c. Signature Confirmation service must be requested at the time of mailing.~~
- f. If the initial attempt to deliver the item is not successful, a notice of attempted delivery will be provided to the addressee.

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1505.18 Special Handling

1505.18.1 Description

- a. Special Handling service provides preferential handling of First-Class Mail, First-Class Package Service, Priority Mail (except Critical Mail), Package Services, Standard Post, and Parcel Select ~~pieces~~ (except Parcel Select Lightweight) pieces, to the extent practicable during dispatch and transportation.
- b. Special Handling service is mandatory for matter that requires special attention in handling, transportation and delivery.
- c. If the item undeliverable as addressed, Special Handling mail that is forwarded to the addressee is given special handling without requiring payment of an additional handling fee. However, additional postage at the applicable price is collected from the addressee upon ~~on~~ delivery.